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Title: Need to establish a Coconut Board Regional Office in East Godavari district in Andhra Pradesh.

SHRI THOTA NARASIMHAM (KAKINADA): Madam, thank you very much for giving me the opportunity.

Madam Speaker, our East Godavari district is the house for lush greenery in our entire Andhra Pradesh. River Godavari blessed us with greenery always. Coconut farming has been taken up in 1.25 lakh acres in our district. Almost 132 by-products can be taken out from coconuts. With the presence of one crore coconut trees, approximately 34.5 crore coconuts have been produced every year. Coconut cultivation is an integral part of every farmer of our district. Our East Godavari district competes with Kerala in coconut farming.

We have been persistently requesting the Union Government to establish a Coconut Board Regional Office in our East Godavari district. It will help the coconut farmers for the integrated development of coconut cultivation and industry, with focus on productivity increase and product diversification and also strengthen their economic condition.

Hence, I request the hon. Minister of Agriculture, through you Madam, to take steps to arrange to establish a Coconut Board Regional Office in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh immediately for the benefit of the coconut farmers. Thank you.